ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF, BY THE MINISTER, CHVRCH-WARDENS AND SIDE-MEN, OF EVERY PARISH WITHIN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF *LONDON*.

WHICH WERE GIVEN IN CHARGE, IN the Annuall Visitation of the Right Worshipfull Mr. *Theophilus Ailmer*, Doctor of Diuinitie, Archdeacon of LONDON, in the yeare of our Lord GOD, one thousand six hundred and twentie.

LONDON,
Printed by *Thomas Purfoot*.
(1620.)

LONDON.

A BRANCH OF THE STATute made in the first yeare of the Raigne of our late Soueraigne Lady Queene ELIZABETH, intituled an Act for the vniformity of Common Prayer, and Seruice of the Church.

THat from and after the feast of the Natiuity of S. *Iohn Baptist* next comming, all and euery person, and persons inhabiting within this Realme, or any other the Queenes Maiesties dominions, shall diligently & faithfully (hauing no lawfull or reasonable excuse to be absent) indeauour themselues to resort to their Parish Church, or Chappell accustomed, or vpon reasonable let therof, to some vsual place where Common Prayer, and such like seruice of God shall be vsed in such time of let, vpon euery Sunday, and other dayes ordained and vsed to be kept as holidaies, and then and there to abide orderly, and soberly during the time of Common Prayer, preaching, or other seruice of God, there to be vsed and ministred, vpon paine of punishment by the censures of the Church; and also vpon

paine that euery perſon ſo offending, ſhall forfeit for e
uery ſuch offence twelue pence, to bee leuied by th
Churchwardens of the Pariſh where ſuch offence ſha
be done, to the vſe of the poore of the ſame Pariſh, o
the goods, lands, and Tenements of ſuch offendor, b
way of diſtreſſe. And for due execution hereof, th
Queenes moſt excellent Maieſtie, the Lords temporall
and all the Commons in this preſent Parliament aſſem
bled, doe in Gods name earneſtly require and charge a
Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, and other Ordinaries, that the
ſhall indeauour themſelues to the vttermoſt of thei
knowledge, that the true and due execution hereof ma
be had throughout their Dioceſſe, and charges, as
they will anſwere before God, for ſuch euills
and plagues wherewith Almighty God
may iuſtly puniſh his people, for
neglecting this good and
wholeſome law.

Th

The forme of the Oath to be miniſtred vnto the Church-wardens onely.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that you ſhall duely and faithfully adminiſter, and diſpoſe of the Stock, and goods belonging to your Pariſh Church, which ſhall come to your hands and poſſeſſion, to and for the beſt benefit of your Church; and in the end of your office of Church warden-ſhip, you ſhall make a true, iuſt, and perfect accompt thereof; and yeeld, and deliuer the remainder thereupon, into the hands, and cuſtody of thoſe perſons who ſhall ſucceede you in the ſame Office, So helpe you God, and his faithfull promiſes in Ieſus Chriſt.

The forme of the Oath to be miniſtred vnto the Church-wardens, and Side-men ioyntly.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that you, and euery of you, ſhall duly conſider, and diligently inquire of all theſe Articles giuen you in charge, and that all fauour, hatred, hope, feare, or any other corrupt affection ſet aſide, you ſhall preſent vnto vs, or our Officiall, all and euery ſuch perſon which now is, or lately was in your Pariſh, as haue committed any offence, or default comprized in any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected or diffamed of any ſuch offence, or default. Wherein you ſhall deale according to an vpright conſcience, neither preſenting, nor ſparing to preſent any perſon contrary to truth; hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice. So helpe you God, and his faithfull promiſes in Ieſus Chriſt.

The charge of you the Church-wardens *and Side-men, ſet downe for the better performance of your duties, and diſcharge of your* OATHS.

YOu are ſtraightly charged, that within the ſpace of one weeke at the fartheſt, next enſuing this your admiſſion, by vs, or our authority, into this your Office; and after the ſame, once in euery moneth at the leaſt, during your ſaid Office, you do diligently & carefully reade, or heare to be read, and duely conſider of all, and euery of theſe ſubſequent Articles, now giuen you in charge; and alſo that you doe diligently and carefully endeauour to enquire, and know all offences and offenders, againſt the ſame Articles. Which being well obſerued, you ſhall be readily prepared to disburthen your conſciences in this behalfe.

And that at fit ſeaſons you doe meet together, and conferre with your Miniſter about, and require him to be aſſiſtant vnto you, in the true vnderſtanding, and detecting of ſinne, and the breach of his Maieſties lawes Eccleſiaſticall eſtabliſhed; that ſo condigne puniſhment may be inflicted on the offenders, and their reformation be effected. Your Miniſter being deepely charged in this behalfe, in, and by the 26. *Canon* Eccleſiaſticall, lately ordained.

And laſtly, that in your preſentments to be made, you doe ſpecifie the fault, or crime, proper name, and ſir-name, trade or profeſſion, and place of dwelling of euery perſon preſented. And that you ſhal bring your firſt generall preſentment vpon all the ſaid Articles, into *Chriſt-Church* in *London*, in the forenoone, betweene the houres of *eight*, and *eleauen* of the clocke, on the *three and twentieth* day of *September*, *Anno Dom.* 1620. and your laſt generall preſentment on the *Tueſday Seight* immediately enſuing after *Eaſter* day next, according to the tenor of the 118. *Canon*, or elſe then, and there to appeare perſonally, to ſhew the cauſe of your default therein.

Intimating vnto you further, that you may (beſides thoſe generall preſentments) preſent offenders as often as you ſhall thinke meet, as by the 116. *Canon* is preſcribed.

ARTICLES

ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIred of by the Minister, Churchwardens, and Side-men, within the Archdeaconry of LONDON.

Concerning the Church.

Canon.

WHETHER haue you in your Church all things requisite for the Common Prayer, and due administration of the Sacraments, according to his Maiesties lawes, and Canons Ecclesiasticall lately established? and namely, a faire Bible, the booke of Common Prayer lately ordained onely to be vsed, a Font of stone set 80. 81.
in the ancient vsuall place, a decent Communion table standing 82.
on a frame, with a Carpet of Silke, or some other semely stuffe, and a faire Linnen cloth to lay thereon at the time of the Communion, a faire Communion cup with a couer of siluer, a decent Pulpit with a cloth and Cushion for the same, a conuenient Pulpit or seat to 83.
read seruice in, a comely large Surplisse, a strong Chest for almes for 84.
the poore, hauing three lockes and keies, and another Chest for keeping the Ornaments of the Church, & the Church Register booke? & whether haue you a Register booke of Parchment, of all Christnings, weddings, and burials? and whether is the same kept according to the Canons? and whether doth your Minister vpon euery Sunday reade the names of such as haue beene Christened, married, or buried the weeke before? 70.

2 Whether your Church, Chancell, and Churchyard be kept in good 85.
reparations, aswell within, as without? whether any prophanation 88.
is vsed in the, or any man hath incroached vpon them? & whether your Parsonage or Vicarage house, and all the housing thereunto belonging, be likewise maintained in sufficient reparations? If not, through whose default is it? and what is the defect?

3 Whether haue you a Terrier of all the Gleabes, Lands, Meadowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Tene- 87.
ments,

nements, and portions of tythes lying within, or without your P
rish, which belong vnto your Parsonage or Vicarage, and in wh
hands it doth remaine? If not, you shall together with your Minist
make diligent inquiry of all the premisses, and exhibite with your n
presentment a true note of them in parchment, subscribed with y
hands, specifying how they are buttalled and bounded, and in wh
occupation at this present they are?

Concerning the Minister.

14. 4 Whether diuine seruice be said in your Church by your M
nister distinctly and reuerently, on all Sundayes, and h
15. dayes appointed to be obserued by the lawes of England, and on th
Eeues, and on Wednesdays and Fridays at conuenient vsuall time
and whether doth hee in ministring the Sacraments, solemnizing
Matrimony, visitation of the sicke, burying the dead, churching of w
men, and all other Rites and offices of the Church, vse the formes
Prayers prescribed in the booke of Common Prayers, without any
58. mission or addition? and whether doth he reade the booke of Canon
once yearely, and were a Surplisse according to the Canon?

22. 5 Whether doth your Minister solemnly giue warning to his P
rishioners for the administration of the holy Communion, and for t
64. obseruation of all holidayes, and fasting dayes? and whether doth
67. visite the sicke, & exhort them to giue to the poore? and whether doth
84. conferre with Recusants in your Parish (if there be any) according
66. the Canons? and whether doth he admit to the holy Communion a
26. notorious offenders, Schismatickes, or strangers, or reiect any wh
27. are not by presentment, or publike scandall infamous for some notor
28. ous crime? and whether doth he admit any Father to be Godfath
29. to his owne childe, or any to be Godfathers and Godmothers, whi
haue not receiued the holy Communion? and whether doth he not b
the signe of the crosse in baptisme, or doth baptize in any Bason, or
ther vessell, and not in the vsuall Font, or doth baptize any childe
62. that were not borne within the Parish? and whether doth he mar
63. any in any exempt place, or without Banes published three seuera
Sundayes or holidays, or without a sufficient dispensation or licen
or without license in times prohibited, albeit the Banes were th
100. published, or not, betweene the houres of eight & twelue in the fo
noone, or (if the parties be vnder the age of One and Twenty yeare
before their Parents or Gouernors haue signified their consent vn
hi

ant and whether doth he refuse to christen, or to burie, or defer the 68.
me longer then he should? and whether by his default any child 69.
th died without baptisme in your Parish?

6 Whether doth hee preach, minister the Communion, baptize 71.
ildren, vnlesse in case of necessity, solemnize marriage, or church
omen in priuate houses? or doth he kéepe or suffer any Fasts, pro-
felies, Exercises, or Exorcismes, without lawfull authority? or 73.
oth he hold or suffer any priuate conuenticles contrary to the Ca-
ons? and whether doth he frequent Tauernes, Alehouses, or any 75.
lace suspected for incontinency? or doth he table or lodge in any
uch house? or is he a common gamster at Dice, Cards, Tables, or
ny other vnlawfull game? or is he a swearer, or drunkard, or one
that applyeth not himselfe to his studie, or is otherwise offensiue, or
scandalous to his function, and ministry? or doth not he vse decen-
y in his apparell, as by the Canons he is enioyned?

7 Whether is he continually resident vpon his Benefice? or how 45.
long time hath he béene absent from the same? and (in case hee bée
licensed to be absent) whether doth he cause his Cure to be suffici- 47.
ently supplied according to the Canons? whether (if he be a Preа-
cher allowed) doth he preach one sermon euery Sunday, or (if not so 46.
allowed) doth he procure monthly Sermons, and reade Homilies?
and whether (not being so allowed) doth he expound any Scripture, 49.
or suffer any man to preach in your Church, whom you haue not
well knowne to haue béene sufficiently licensed, and who hath not
first subscribed his name, together with the day when he did preach,
and who was not soberly or decently apparelled? 74.

8 Whether your Preacher and Lecturer reade diuine Seruice, 56.
and minister the Sacraments twise in the yeare at the least, in his
owne person, according to the Canons? and whether doth hee vse 55.
the forme of Prayer, before his Sermon, for the Kings most excel-
lent Maiesty, exhorting the people to obedience to his Maiestie, and
other Magistrates in authority vnder him?

9 Whether doth your Minister on Sundaies and holidayes cate-
chise the youth and ignorant persons in your Parish, according to 59.
the order prescribed in the booke of Common Prayer, and according
to the Canons? and whether doth he in the Rogation dayes vse the
perambulation of the circuite of the Parish, appointed by the law,
according to his dutie?

10 Whether doth he euery fire moneths denounce in your Parish 65.

Church, all such of your Parish as doe persenere in the sentence of Excommunication, not seeking to be absolued: and whether hath he admitted any such Excommunicate person to the Communion or to the Church, without Certificate of his absolution: and whether doth he, or any of your Parish, familiarly frequent the company of any such excommunicate person?

Concerning Parishioners.

59. 11 WHether any of your Parishioners doe not cause their children, seruants, and Apprentices to come to their Minister vpon Sundayes and holidayes, to be instructed in the Catechisme by him? and whether any of them refuse or neglect to come, or comming, refuse to learne those instructions set forth in the booke of Common Prayer? and what be the names of them so not causing, or refusing?

13. 12 Whether any of your parishioners, or other strangers soiourning, lodging, or commonly resorting to any house within your Parish, being aboue Sixteene yeares of age, do wilfully or negligently absent themselues from your Parish Church, vpon Sundayes, or holidayes, at Morning and Euening prayer? or who come very late to Church vpon the said dayes? or who depart from Church be-
18. fore the diuine Seruice be finished? or who doe not reuerently behaue themselues during the time of diuine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling at such times as the generall confession of sinnes, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all prayers and Collects are read? and what Men, Youthes, and Boyes, during all that time, haue not had their heads wholly vncouered, except in case of apparant sicknesse? and who doe vse any gaming or pastime abroad, or in any house, or doe sit in the street, or Churchyard, or in any Tauerne or Victualling house, vpō any of those days in ỹ time of diuine seruice? and who haue quarrelled, brawled, or vsed violence to any person within your Church, or Churchyard? and who haue vsed filthy and prophane talke, or other rude and immodest behauiour? and what be the names of the offenders herein?

21. 13 Whether there be any of, or within your Parish, being Sixteene yeares of age, and vpward, that doe not receiue the holy Communion in your Church thrice in this yeare at the least, and chiefly once at Easter next? and whether any of your Parish doe not deuoutly

fully kneele at the receiuing thereof? and whether doth not your Minister receiue it himselfe on euery day that he administreth it to others, and vse the words of Institution at euery time y^t the Bread and Wine is administred? and whether haue all those persons which haue bin partakers of the holy Communion, signified their names vnto the Minister, or vnto some other person by him thereunto appointed ouer-night, or else in the morning before the beginning of Morning prayers, according to the forme prescribed in the booke of Common Prayers aforesaid, to the intent that the Minister, and all others appointed to haue the charge and care thereof, may fully bee advertised, and take notice (in due time) of all them that haue bene Communicants, and of all them that haue not bin Communicants at the time and times appointed for the same? To which purpose, that the people may be prepared so to doe, the Minister shall giue publike warning thereof in the Church, on the nert Sunday before the Communion shall be celebrated. And whether doe your selues diligently obserue your office, in marking what persons of or within your Parish offend against this, and the nert precedent Article, in due presenting of their names? 22.

14 Whether any in your Parish hauing a Preacher to their Parson, Vicar, or Curate, doe absent themselues from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preachers? and whether any hauing bene ordained Priest, or Deacon, hath relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe to a course of life as a Lay man? And whether any (not being in Orders) do openly reade common Prayer, or execute any ministeriall dutie in the Church, and what bee their names?

15 Whether there be any that doe publikely or priuately speake against the booke of Common Prayer, deprauing the same, or any thing therein contained? or doe so speake against, or depraue any of the Articles of Religion, agreed vpon in Anno Dom. 1562? or against the Kings royall Supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall? or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church of England? or against the gouernment of the said Church of England, vnder the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons, and other Officers thereunto lawfully appointed, affirming that the same is repugnant to the word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully ordained? or whether there be any that be Authors, or Maintainers of Schisme, or frequenters 4. 6. 2. 30. 7. 9

80. frequenters of any priuate Conuenticles, or meetings? or any th
81. be, or be suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines, Brownists, of t
Family of Loue, or of any other Heresie, or Schisme, and what
their names?

77. 16 Whether you doe know any Schole-master that doth teac
78. or Curate that doth reade diuine Seruice within your parish, wit
79. out license of his Ordinary, vnder his Seale? and whether do
not such Schole-master instruct his Schollers in the Catechisme
and teach them the grounds of Religion, and bring them to Churc
to heare diuine Seruice, and Sermons? and whether is he a com
mon Officer, or Artificer, or any waves reprouceable in life? an
whether is your Parish Clarke allowed by the Ordinary? an
whether doth your Clarke serue more Cures then one? and whe
ther doe they demeane themselues according to their seuerall du
ties?

17 Whether haue you any Midwiues in your Parish, and hou
many of them be there, and how long haue they exercised that Of
fice, and by what authority? and whether haue you in your Parish
any that doe practise as Physitions, or Chyrurgions, and how long
haue they done so, and by what authority, and of what skill ar
they reputed in their profession?

18 Whether doe you know any persons that doe administer th
goods of the dead, without lawfull authority? or suppresse the la
will of the dead? or with-hold any Stocke of the Church, or any le
gacies giuen to charitable & godly vses? and whether is the Alms
of the Church faithfully distributed to the vse of the poore? and whe
ther haue you the Churchwardens diligently obserued, and duly
presented all those persons, who haue not resorted to your Parish
Church vpon euery Sunday and holiday, and there made their a
bode orderly, and soberly, during all the time of the common Pray
ers, Sermons, and other Seruice of God, according to the expresse
charge contained in the Acts of Parliament, in that behalfe pro
uided in the first yeare of the Raigne of our late Soueraigne Lady
89. Queene Elizabeth? and whether the late Churchwardens haue gi
uen a iust account of all the Church-stocke, and goods, by them had
and receiued, according to the Canons?

19 Whether doe you know in your Parish any common swea
rers, drunkards, blasphemers, simonicall persons, or vsurers, con
809. trary to the Statute of 37. of K. Henry the eight, any witches, coniu
rers,

ers, Southsayers, Charmers, Fornicators, Adulterers, incestuous persons, brawlers, common slanderers of their neighbours, raylers, scoulders, filthy & lascivious talkers, sowers of discord betwixt neighbours. or any that receive or lodge incontinent persons, or harbour women with child that be unmarried, conueying or suffering them to goe away before they haue made satisfaction to the congregation? or any persons that are by common fame noted, or vehemently suspected of any of these crimes, or that being heretofore suspected, or presented for any of these faults, haue for that cause departed out of your Parish, and are now returned? and you are to specifie their names, and offences.

20 Whether there bee any persons within your Parish that bee married within the prohibited degrees of Consanguinity or Affinity? or whose olde husbands or wiues are yet aliue, albeit diuorced from them? or that being lawfully married doe liue scandalously apart? or that were married in times prohibited, or without banes thrée seuerall Sundayes, or holidayes published, hauing no sufficient license or dispensation for the same? and whether there be any that doe communicate, or cause their children to be baptized in other parishes abroad? or kéep their children vnbaptized longer then is conuenient? & you are to specifie the offenders, & offences herein. 99. 57.

21 Whether any women deliuered of child in your parish, in time conuenient after child-birth, doth not come to the vsual place in the Church to giue God thankes, as it is appointed by the booke of common Prayer? and whether doth your Clarke then lay a Cushion at the said vsuall place? and whether doth your Minister admit any thereto, who was begotten with childe in adultery, or fornication, without license from the Ordinarie?

22 Whether any Inhabitant within your Parish doth detaine your parish Clarkes wages, duties for bread and wine, or any other Church duties? and you are to specifie what be their names, and how much those duties be.

23 Whether any person in your Parish doe vse or exercise, or haue vsed or exercised any Trade, Handicraft, or bodily labour, or doe buy or sell, or kéepe open shops, or ware houses, vpon any Sunday, or holiday, either by themselues, or their Apprentices, or Seruants? or haue otherwise prophaned the said dayes, contrary to the orders of the Church of England? and whether there be any Innekéepers, Vintners, Alehouse-kéepers, or Victualers, that permit

6. any persons in their houses, to eate, drinke, or play at any game during the time of diuine Seruice, or Sermon on those dayes: and you are to specifie the offences, and offenders.

24 Whether doe any in your Parish familiarly frequent the company of excommunicate persons? and whether doth your Minister, or any of your Parish, without consent of your Ordinary, cause any to doe penance? or to be censured or punished by any Vestrie meetings, or otherwise by their owne authority? or doe or haue taken any money for any crime or matter punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes? and you are to specifie the names of them that haue beene so punished, and in what manner, and vpon what cause.

25 Whether haue you, and euery of you the Churchwardens, and Sidemen, within the space of one weeke next and immediately ensuing your admission (by vs, or our authority) into this your Office, and sithence the same, once in euery moneth at the least, diligently and carefully read, or heare read, and duely considered of all and euery of these Articles giuen you in charge? and whether haue you, and euery of you diligently and carefully endeauoured to inquire and know the offences and offenders, against any of the contents of these Articles? and whether haue you duely presented all and euery of them, vnto vs the Archdeacon of London your Ordinary, or vnto our Officiall, according to your seuerall oaths, by vs, or our
117. authority in this behalfe, administred vnto you? and if any one, or more of you the Churchwardens, and Sidemen, doe know, or haue heard of any fault inquired of in these Articles, or of any other crime (the reformation whereof belongeth to the Ecclesiasticall Iurisdiction) happening from the Fiue and twentieth day of March. Anno Dom. 1620. that then you shall informe one another thereof, and shall likewise present the same, by vertue of your oaths taken as aforesaid.

26. 26 Whether haue you the Churchwardens, and Sidemen, at fit seasons, met togethers, and (in the presence of your Minister) conferred of your presentments to be made vpon, and your answers vnto euery of these preceding Articles? and whether haue you required your Minister, to be present with you, and to assist you at those
113. times? Intimating hereby, that if you will not present, according to your oath, and charge, your Minister may himselfe present vnto vs, or our Officiall, such faults and crimes as are before particularly

larly inquired of, in these precedent Articles, for the due reformation of the same

WHereas in diuers great Parishes within the Archdeaconry of London, *multitudes of people vsually come to receiue the holy Communion, some of whome are persons excommunicated: It is thought to be very conuenient, that in euery Parish the names of all such persons excommunicated, be alwayes kept in writing, from time to time. That so the Minister (when he is to administer that holy Sacrament) may thereby be remembred of those persons excommunicated, and so auoyde them.*

FINIS.